

**In the claims:**

I. Please ~~cancel~~ claims 71, 72, and 73.

II. Please ~~substitute~~ rewritten claims 2, 3, 83, 95, 102, 105, 109, 110, and 111 for the pending claims with the same numbers as follows:

2. (Once Amended) A fully automated method of facilitating an electronic auction between a prospective buyer and a plurality of prospective sellers with near perfect information, comprising the steps of:
- a) inputting into a computer a buyer's request for information about products or services;
  - b) finding information in response to the request for information;
  - c) communicating at least part of the information found to the buyer;
  - d) inputting into the computer a buyer's request for an offer;
  - e) communicating the request for an offer to at least two of the sellers;
  - f) receiving offers, including terms of sale in response to the request for an offer, from at least two of the sellers;
  - g) automatically generating rating information about seller offers based on a plurality of predetermined criteria;
  - h) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller;
  - i) receiving an adjusted offer from at least one of the sellers during a specified auction period; and
  - j) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers and at least part of the rating information to the buyer.
3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said request for an offer is inputted using an electronic template.

83. (Once Amended) A fully automated method of facilitating an electronic auction between a prospective buyer and a plurality of prospective sellers with near perfect information, comprising the steps of:

- A4
- a) inputting into a computer a buyer's request for an offer;
  - b) communicating the request for an offer to at least two of the sellers;
  - c) receiving offers, including terms of sale in response to the request for an offer, from at least two of the sellers;
  - d) automatically generating rating information about seller offers based on a plurality of predetermined criteria;
  - e) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller;
  - f) receiving an adjusted offer from at least one of the sellers during a specified auction period;
  - g) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers and at least part of the rating information to the buyer; and
  - h) selling information about the auction.

95. (Once Amended) A fully automated method of facilitating an electronic auction between a prospective buyer and a plurality of prospective sellers with near perfect information, comprising the steps of:

- A5
- a) inputting into a computer a buyer's request for an offer;
  - b) communicating the request for an offer to at least two of the sellers;
  - c) receiving offers, including terms of sale in response to the request for an offer, from at least two of the sellers;
  - d) automatically generating rating information about seller offers based on a plurality of predetermined criteria;
  - e) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller;
  - f) receiving an adjusted offer from at least one of the sellers during a specified auction period;

- g) communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers and at least part of the rating information to the buyer; and
- h) selling information about the buyer.

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a6 102. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising completing an electronic transaction at an electronic site that was also used for the buyer's auction.

a7 105. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising completing an electronic transaction at an electronic site representing one of the sellers.

109. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller occurs before the step of receiving an adjusted offer.

a8 110. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller occurs after the step of receiving an adjusted offer.

111. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating information regarding at least some of the seller offers to at least one other seller occurs both before and after the step of receiving an adjusted offer.